

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 TRSE-00 OMB-01 DRC-01 EA-11 /162 W

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R 270922Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2617

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 11120

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, US

SUBJECT: BHUTTO'S FOREIGN POLICY SPEECH: POSTSCRIPT

REF: ISLAMABAD 11085

1. MY SCHEDULE WAS SO FULL OF OPENING CALLS THAT I DID NOT SEE REFTEL PRIOR TO ITS DISPATCH. I WOULD LIKE TO CHANGE SOMEWHAT THE FLAVOR OF ITS CLOSING COMMENT. THIS IS NO REFLECTION ON OUR STAFF AS THE MESSAGE IS AN ACCURATE REFLECTION OF WHAT WAS CONTAINED IN THE LOCAL PRESS. ONLY AMBASSADORS WERE INVITED TO THAT SESSION, AND HENCE I WAS THE ONLY ONE OF THE MISSION PHYSICALLY PRESENT. (THERE IS NO EQUIVALENT HERE OF OUR DAILY CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.)

2. THE ONLY MAJOR POINT OF VARIANCE WAS THAT I THINK THE U.S. CAME OUT BETTER IN BHUTTO'S REMARKS ABOUT US
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THAN REFTEL WOULD INDICATE. BHUTTO STARTED OUT TO

REFUTE AN OPPOSITION MEMBER'S CHARGE THAT "PAKISTANI GOVERNMENTS ARE MADE IN WASHINGTON". HE CITED WHAT SEEMED TO ME TO BE SOMEWHAT AN UNNECESSARY NUMBER OF TIMES IN THE PAST WHERE PAKISTAN AND U.S. VIEWS WERE DIFFERENT, INCLUDING SOME IN WHICH HE WAS PERSONALLY INVOLVED. HAVING MADE HIS POINT ON PAKISTAN'S INDEPENDENCE FROM US, HE THEN TOOK OFF INTO HOW "VITAL" IT WAS FOR PAKISTAN TO HAVE GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. HE WENT FROM ADJECTIVE TO ADJECTIVE, WITH EACH ONE GETTING STRONGER, ENDING UP SAYING THAT GOOD U.S.-PAK RELATIONS ARE OF "COLOSSAL IMPORTANCE TO PAKISTAN." AT ONE POINT HE SAID "EVERYBODY KNOWS MY VIEWS ON THIS SUBJECT. I DON'T JUST TAKE THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR ON SHIKARI AND TELL HIM MY VIEWS PRIVATELY-I TELL EVERYBODY, AND PUBLICLY SO."

3. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR TOLD ME LATER ON THAT HE THOUGHT BHUTTO HAD PLACED US FIRST IN HIS EMPHASIS, THE CHINESE SECOND, AND THE RUSSIANS A RATHER POOR THIRD. I AM INCLINED TO AGREE WITH HIS ASSESSMENT AS FAR AS BHUTTO'S REMARKS ON THIS OCCASION ARE CONCERNED. I AM ALSO INFLUENCED IN THIS DIRECTION BY THE FACT THAT HIS TONE, VOLUME, AND MANNER OF DELIVERY WERE MORE DRAMATIC IN OUR CASE THAN THEY WERE WHEN HE WAS SPEAKING ABOUT OTHERS.
BYROADE

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